

California State Senate

SENATOR
BOB HUFF

TWENTY-NINTH SENATE DISTRICT



September 10, 2015

The Honorable Tom Torlakson,
Superintendent of Public Instruction
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Superintendent Torlakson:

As the representative of the largest population of Asian Pacific Islander constituents in the California State Senate, I am requesting a culturally significant addition to the History-Social Science Framework on their behalf.

Lunar New Year is celebrated in many Asian communities around the world, including the United States, and especially California - where it is predominantly celebrated by 2.5 million Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese residents as a significant part of their deeply held cultural family traditions.

Please include a discussion of the Asian Lunar New Year in the History-Social Science Framework. The discussion should focus on how the Lunar New Year is a tradition that is practiced in different communities. Students should compare how it is celebrated in their local communities and how it connects people today to traditions from the past. The framework should also note that this sometimes is viewed as a religious holiday and the teaching of the Lunar New Year should be done respectfully while avoiding endorsing religious practices.

Thank you kindly in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Huff".
Bob Huff
Senator, 29th District

cc. Thomas Adams, Ph.D., Executive Director, Instructional Quality Commission
Michael Kirst, President of the State Board of Education

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TWENTY-NINTH SENATE DISTRICT



September 10, 2015

Michael Kirst, President of the State Board of Education
1430 N St. Suite #5111
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Kirst:

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Bob Huff
Senator, 29th District

cc. The Honorable Tom Torlakson, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Thomas Adams, Ph.D., Executive Director, Instructional Quality Commission